



10/29/03

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 214-15 (Hammerstrom)

Senate Bills 214 and 215 would establish a felony penalty for the possession or release of a live “prohibited species”, and require restitution for damage to the natural resources from a violation.

Support: Michigan United Conservation Council, Michigan Environmental Council, Trout Unlimited, DNR, Michigan Association of Counties, DEQ.

SB 214:

- SB 214 passed [RC 510: 36 yes, 0 no].

SB 215:

- SB 215 passed [RC 511: 36 yes, 0 no].

SB 226-27 (Hammerstrom)

Senate Bills 226-27 would prohibit knowing release of a genetically engineered fish or a nonnative fish into this state. A person would be required to apply for a permit from the DNR for release. The DNR would be able to charge a fee to cover administration of the program.

Support: Michigan United Conservation Council, Michigan Environmental Council, Trout Unlimited, DNR, Michigan Association of Counties, DEQ.

Oppose: Michigan Agribusiness Association, Michigan Farm Bureau.

SB 226:

- SB 226 passed [RC 512: 36 yes, 0 no].

SB 227:

- SB 227 passed [RC 513: 35 yes, 0 no].

SB 228 (Sanborn)

SB 229 (Birkholz)

Support: Michigan United Conservation Council, Michigan Environmental Council, Trout Unlimited, DNR, Michigan Association of Counties, DEQ.

Senate Bill 228 would prohibit a person from importing into this State a genetically engineered organism (GEO) that was a variant of an animal species, from an area under quarantine, without the permission of the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

- **SB 228 passed [RC 514: 36 yes, 0 no].**

Senate Bill 229 would amend the Michigan Aquaculture Development Act to define each genetically engineered organism that is a variant of an aquaculture species as a distinct aquaculture species.

- **SB 229 passed [RC 515: 36 yes, 0 no].**

HB 5050 (Robertson)

House Bill 5050 would improve the ability of insurers to match annuities to investment opportunities. The bill would allow life and annuity insurance companies to lower their minimum interest rate for individual fixed annuities if the need arises which would help alleviate concerns that the minimum rate may, at some point, be higher than the market interest rate. The bill implements the NAIC model act for establishing the minimum interest rate for individual deferred annuities, helping to keep Michigan in line with other states in the individual deferred annuity market.

Support: Office of Financial and Insurance Services, Life Insurance Association of Michigan, Jackson National Life Insurance, American Council of Life Insurers.

- **HB 5050 passed with IE [RC 509: 34 yes, 1 no (Sanborn)].**

HB 5133 (Acciavatti)

House Bill 5133 removes interest and penalties for a failure to file tax returns from August 15–August 22. Although the bill is designed to address the power outage during that period, there is no requirement to show that the outage caused the failure to file; rather, the bill is simply a waiver of penalties and interest for the week of August 15—August 22, 2003.

- **HB 5133 passed with IE [RC 516: 36 yes, 0 no].**

THIRD READING

SB 275 (Brown)

Senate Bill 275 would permit Coldwater to modify the boundaries of the renaissance zone to include a parcel of property owned by the Klein Group. This piece of property was originally thought to have been included in the renaissance zone.

- **Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].**
- **SB 275 was moved to 3rd Reading.**

SB 612 (Toy)

Senate Bill 612 would allow Consumers Energy to continue their Appliance Service Program by exempting a utility's repair and servicing program from the code of conduct if it has less than 30% of the market share for repair and servicing of heating and cooling systems within its service area.

Support: Consumers Energy, AFL-CIO, Utility Workers Council, DTE Energy, Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Manufacturers Association.

Oppose: Michigan Alliance for Fair Competition, Small Business Association of Michigan, National Federation of Independent Businesses, Allied Businesses Advocating Tariff Equity (ABATE), Michigan Association of Home Builders.

- Cassis 1 (1 amend) was defeated [no RC]. Toy spoke against this amendment.
- SB 612 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4714 (Farhat)

House Bill 4717 would require the Department of Education to collaborate with statewide associations of school principals to establish a principal leadership academy. The academy would use successful principals to train principals.

- HB 4714 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4872 (TOBOCMAN)

House Bill 4872 would provide homeowners in Corktown with the property tax reductions they were promised when they purchased property in the neighborhood enterprise zone.

Support: Department of Treasury, Corktown Citizen District Council.

- HB 4872 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4907 (Stahl)

House Bill 4907 would revise provisions regulating accelerated life insurance benefits, which are typically paid prior to death. The bill would acknowledge the expanded options offered by life insurance companies by expanding the qualifications that allow a policyholder to make use of accelerated benefits. The bill would provide greater consumer protection by requiring certain disclosures of the financial implications of purchasing accelerated benefits, and requiring that premiums be based on sound actuarial principles. [The bill has been re-introduced from the last session which was HB 6491. The bill is identical to SB 116 (Van Woerkom).]

Support: Office of Financial and Insurance Services, Life Insurance Association of Michigan.

- Bishop 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 4907 was moved to 3rd Reading.